

REMARKS

The specification has been amended merely to eliminate the use of "curvature" as an abbreviated term for "radius of curvature".

The claims have been amended to expedite prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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BIFOCAL PLASTIC LENS

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to a bifocal plastic lens.

5 BACKGROUND ART

In a bifocal plastic lens, generally, a bench lens and a small lens are constituted by the same resin.

When the small lens is designed to have a smaller radius of curvature than the radius of curvature of the 10 bench lens and a diameter of the small lens is increased in order to widen a near-sight view, an area of a far-sight section of the lens becomes small so that a field of far-sight view is reduced. When an upper part of the small lens is removed, a step is 15 generated therein. Since the step is processed to be a plane, a boundary can be seen clearly. A mold for molding the step is hard to handle because a step portion is easily broken, and is hard to release in a molding process. Thus, there are many problems in 20 respect of the processing. JP-A-49-88534 has described

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the prior art in which a step is not provided on an upper edge part of a small lens portion but the small lens portion is buried in a lens. In the invention, in order to bury a small lens formed of glass into a lens,
5 a small lens formed of glass is disposed in a shell for casting and molding a plastic lens by using a support member and a resin monomer for a lens is then cast into the shell and is thus heated and polymerized, and a small lens is fixed into the lens. However, the
10 support member remains in the lens. For this reason, a lower part of the cast lens is cut away for use. In addition, JP-A-53-124570 and JP-T-9-511191 have described a method of superposing and combining two types of lens-shaped resin members, thereby
15 manufacturing a bifocal lens, in which a small lens portion takes a protruded shape.

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the invention to provide a bifocal lens in which a small lens portion is not protruded, and preferably, a lens in which a boundary
20 line between a bench lens portion and a small lens

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portion is difficult to see.

In order to solve the problems, in the bifocal plastic lens according to the invention, it is assumed that either a preparatory lens member including a small lens or a preparatory lens member including a concave portion to be the small lens is molded previously and another resin is adhered to a surface provided with the small lens or the concave portion in the preparatory lens member, and is cured and integrated, and the small lens is thus taken into the lens and a protruded surface is not formed by the small lens. It is assumed that the "bench lens" in this specification indicates all of portions other than the small lens of the preparatory lens member including the small lens, the preparatory lens member including the concave portion to mold the small lens, and portions other than the small lens of the lens obtained after the integration.

It is assumed that a resin constituting the portion including the small lens has a refractive index which is higher than the refractive index of a resin constituting other portions to be adhered thereto.

In order to prevent a boundary surface between the

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small lens and the bench lens from being conspicuous in the lens, it is preferable that a thickness of a peripheral edge portion of the small lens on the boundary surface should be equal or almost equal to 5 that of the bench lens (a thickness of the small lens itself is set to be almost zero). In the case in which a step is made on the boundary surface of the peripheral edge portion of the small lens, moreover, at least a part of the step can also be constituted by a 10 curved surface. Alternatively, such a property as to reduce a reflected light for coloring, matting or antireflection may be given to a surface constituting the step of the upper edge portion in the small lens.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

15 Figs. 1(a) to (c) are longitudinal sectional views showing a mold, Figs. 1(d) to (f) are longitudinal sectional views showing a procedure for molding, and Figs. 1(g) and (h) are longitudinal sectional views showing a bifocal lens according to the invention. 20 Each of the longitudinal sectional views is a typical sectional view for explanation and so forth.

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Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view showing another embodiment, and (a) and (b) are longitudinal sectional views showing a mold and (c) to (e) are longitudinal sectional views showing a procedure for molding, and (f) is a longitudinal sectional view showing a bifocal lens according to the embodiment.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view showing a mold of a portion for molding a small lens.

Fig. 4(a) is a longitudinal sectional view showing another embodiment of the portion for molding a small lens, Figs. 4(b) and (c) are sectional views showing an example in which steps are connected to each other through a curved surface, Fig. 4(d) is a front view showing the small lens, and Fig. 4(e) is a sectional view showing a conventional small lens portion.

Fig. 5(a) is a sectional view showing a mold having a convex small lens molding surface on a concave surface side, Fig. 5(b) is a view showing a preparatory molded product, Fig. 5(c) is a view showing a shell, Fig. 5(d) is a view showing a compound lens which is molded, and Fig. 5(e) is a sectional view showing a bifocal lens.

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Fig. 6(a) is a sectional view showing a mold having a convex small lens molding surface on a convex surface side, Fig. 6(b) is a view showing a preparatory molded product, Fig. 6(c) is a view showing a shell, 5 Fig. 6(d) is a view showing a compound lens, and Fig. 6(e) is a sectional view showing a bifocal lens.

[Explanation of Designations]

1, 2, 3, 16, 16a, 17, 21 ... mold, 4, 4a, 4b ... mold
concave portion, 5 ... tape, 6, 10, 18, 22 ... shell, 7,
10 11, 19, 23 ... cavity portion, 8 ... first monomer, 9
... preparatory lens member, 9a ... small lens, 12 ...
second monomer, 13 ... bench lens, 14 ... compound lens,
15 ... bifocal lens, 20 ... preparatory lens member,
20a, 20b ... small lens, 25 ... compound lens, 26 ...
15 step, 26a, 26b ... curved surface, 30, 33, 40, 43 ...
mold, 31, 41 ... preparatory lens member, 32, 42 ...
small lens molding surface, 34, 44 ... shell, 35, 45 ...
cavity portion, 36, 46 ... small lens molding member,
37, 47 ... compound lens, 38, 48 ... small lens, 39, 49
20 ... bifocal lens.

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BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

A bifocal lens according to the invention is characterized in that either a preparatory lens member including a small lens or a preparatory lens member including a concave portion to make a small lens is molded previously and another resin is adhered to a surface provided with the small lens or the concave portion in the preparatory lens member, and is cured and integrated and the small lens is taken into the lens to prevent a protruded surface from being formed by the small lens, and a lens having two types of optical resins superposed and stuck together is constituted in principle and the small lens is formed in a stuck portion. Either of the two types of resins is ground and polished to regulate a refractive power. Thus, it is possible to obtain a bifocal plastic lens having no portion protruded by the small lens. Since there is no protruded portion, a yield in a coating step of hard-coat, primer and so on can be enhanced and a user can also easily remove the stains of the lens. In some cases in which an episulfide resin having a high refractive index of 1.74 is used in a lens for

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glasses. This resin cannot be dyed. According to the invention, however, it is possible to dye the whole lens by using a resin having an easy dyeing property for another resin to be superposed.

5 In the lens, the resin constituting the portion including the small lens has a higher refractive index than the refractive index of a resin constituting other portions to be adhered thereto. Consequently, a reduction in a radius of curvature of the small lens
10 can be relieved so that a predetermined additional power can be set. Thus, the small lens can be conveniently taken into the lens.

As a procedure for molding the lens according to the invention, it is preferable to employ a structure
15 in which a mold having a small lens molding surface on an optical molding surface is used to first mold a preparatory lens member constituted by a thermoplastic resin or a thermosetting resin to which the small lens molding surface is transferred, and subsequently,
20 another resin is cast onto the small lens molding surface side of the preparatory lens member and is thus cured, and the small lens molding portion is taken into

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the lens and is not protruded therefrom.

For the mold having the small lens molding surface, the small lens molding surface constituted by a concave surface or a convex surface is used. In the invention, however, the small lens is molded by either of the two types of resins to be superposed which has a higher refractive index as described above. Therefore, the small lens is molded integrally with the preparatory lens member in the case in which the preparatory lens member is molded by the resin having a higher refractive index, and the small lens molding surface is formed by only the concave surface but the small lens is not constituted integrally in the case in which the preparatory lens member is molded by the resin having a lower refractive index. Accordingly, another resin having a high refractive index is cast onto the small lens molding surface side taking a concave shape and is heated and polymerized, and the resin is adhered to and integrated with the concave surface in the process.

The lens according to the invention has such a structure that the small lens is taken into the lens as

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described above. However, a boundary surface between the small lens and a bench lens can be confirmed visually. In order to prevent the boundary surface from being conspicuous, therefore, it is preferable
5 that the thickness of the peripheral edge portion of the small lens on the boundary surface should be equal or almost equal to that of the bench lens. In the case in which a step in a direction of a thickness is generated on the boundary surface between the small
10 lens and the bench lens, moreover, it is preferable that at least a part thereof should be constituted by a curved surface.

More specifically, the shape in which the thickness of the peripheral edge portion of the small
15 lens is equal or almost equal to that of the bench lens utilizes the fact that the thickness of the peripheral edge portion is reduced because a radius of curvature of the small lens is smaller than that of the bench lens. In general, a conventional lens also has a
20 structure in which a thickness in a portion other than the upper edge portion of the small lens in an attachment to glasses is equal to the thickness of the

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bench lens and a boundary line between the small lens and the bench lens is difficult to see. In a conventional bifocal plastic lens, however, both of them are molded by a single resin and a step is
5 provided on the upper edge portion of the small lens to determine an additional power with a variation in the radius of curvature of the small lens, and the step portion is constituted by a plane. Thus, there is employed a structure in which a boundary surface can
10 easily be seen. In the invention, since the resin having a high refractive index is used for the small lens portion, a reduction in the radius of curvature of the small lens can be relieved. When constituting this portion by a curved surface in at least a part thereof
15 in place of a complete plane, therefore, it is possible to make the boundary surface to be difficult to see since the step appears inside the lens. However, this is different from a progressive shape.

In order to prevent the boundary surface from
20 being conspicuous, more specifically, it is possible to use a mold in which a chamfered portion constituted by a curved surface is formed on the step of the boundary

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surface between the upper edge portion of the small lens and the bench lens. It is assumed that the chamfered portion has a radius of curvature of 0.1 to 1.0 R. Since a leap in a refractive power is generated in this portion, however, a width is set to be as small as possible.

In order to prevent the boundary surface from being conspicuous, such a property as to reduce a reflected light including coloring, matting or antireflection can also be given to a surface constituting the step of the upper edge portion of the small lens. Since the surface of the step generated in the upper edge portion of the small lens is constituted to be an adhering surface of two types of resins on which the small lenses is superposed, it serves as an interface of different resins and has such a property that a transmitted ray is reflected. In order to lessen or remove the reflected light, such a property as to reduce the reflected light is given. In the case in which the bifocal lens is a colored lens, a step is colored with a coloring agent of the same type so that the step is difficult to see. In the preparatory lens

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member which is molded, moreover, a step portion may be rubbed with abrasive grains to create a mat surface.

Furthermore, it is also possible to disperse particulates having a particle diameter of 20 to 200 nm

5 such as SiO₂ in a silicone type coupling agent, applying them onto the step portion and carrying out heating and drying to fix inorganic particulates like a layer, thereby forming a heterogeneous film to give an antireflection function.

10 In the lens according to the invention, moreover, the small lens and the bench lens can be set to have different color tones from each other. Referring to the dyeing of the plastic lens, the degree of the dyeing is varied depending on the type of a resin
15 constituting the lens. As an extreme example, an episulfide-type resin having a high refractive index is hard to dye. Accordingly, it is possible to provide a lens in which a small lens and a bench lens have different color tones by an immersion of the whole lens
20 according to the invention in a dye liquor. In case of a far-sight view, there is no problem even if the quantity of a light is insufficient. In the case in

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which a character is to be seen through the small lens, however, a brightness which is as great as possible is preferred. It is also possible to obtain a convenient lens by changing the degree of the dyeing.

5 As described above, in the bifocal plastic lens according to the invention, the small lens is set to be included in the lens by using the resin having a high refractive index. Therefore, the surface of the lens has no step so that a hard coat and an antireflection 10 film can easily be formed and stains can also be removed easily. In the case in which the thickness of the peripheral edge portion of the small lens is set to be equal or almost equal to the thickness of the bench lens on which the small lens is formed or the boundary 15 surface generating the step is constituted by a curved surface in place of a plane, moreover, the boundary surface is difficult to see. Consequently, the bifocal lens is suitable for a person who does not like to look older when wearing bifocal lenses. In addition, it is 20 possible to manufacture, in accordance with the invention, a bifocal plastic lens in which there is no step even if a boundary line is seen. The highest

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refractive index in the application of the invention is 1.737 of the episulfide resin. Even if a resin having a higher refractive index appears, furthermore, it is possible to practically use the invention by simply changing a design value of a radius of curvature.

5 Examples of the invention will be described below and the invention is not restricted to these examples.

[Example 1]

In Fig. 1, (a) and (b) are typical sectional views showing a pair of glass molds, which will be hereinafter simply referred to as sectional views. Moreover, a radius of curvature will be simply referred to as a curvature. ~~Curvatures~~ Radius of curvatures R_1 and R_2 of molding surfaces of molds 1 and 2 give the same spherical surfaces. The surface having the radius of curvature R_2 is provided with a concave portion 4 having a radius of curvature R_3 which molds a small lens. Fig. 1(c) is a sectional view showing a mold 3 for molding a concave surface side of a compound lens which will be described below, and the molding surface has a radius of curvature of R_4 . Fig. 1(d) shows a shell 6 in which peripheral edge portions of the molds

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1 and 2 are sealed with a tape 5. A first monomer 8 is cast into a cavity portion 7 in the shell and is heated and polymerized, and the mold 2 is released so that a preparatory lens member 9 including a small lens 9a shown in Fig. 1(e) is obtained. At this time, the preparatory lens member 9 is maintained to be adhered to the mold 1. In Fig. 1(f), peripheral edge portions of the mold 1 and the mold 3 for the preparatory lens member 9 are sealed with the tape 5 to create a shell 10. A second monomer 12 is cast into a cavity portion 11 in the shell and is heated and polymerized, and the molds 1 and 3 are then released to obtain a compound lens 14 in which a bench lens 13 covering a small lens portion and the preparatory lens member 9 are adhered to each other in a polymerizing process as shown in Fig. 1(g). The compound lens is a semifinished lens and a concave surface side is properly ground and polished and is formed to be a toric surface corresponding to the regulation of a refractive power 20 and a power to correct astigmatism so that a bifocal lens is finished.

In the compound lens 14, moreover, a convex

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surface side is ground and polished to create a bifocal lens 15 having only a small lens 9a adhered thereto as shown in Fig. 1(h). A peripheral edge portion 9b of the small lens 9a has a feature that a thickness is equal to a thickness of a bench lens, and a height protruded from a curved surface of the bench lens is zero and a boundary line with the bench lens is difficult to see.

Description will be given to an example in which a calculation is carried out by using an actual numeric value in Fig. 1(h).

First monomer : MR174 manufactured by MITSUI CHEMICALS, INC., Nd = 1.737

Second monomer : MR6 manufactured by MITSUI CHEMICALS, INC., Nd = 1.594

R₁ (radius of curvature on a concave surface side of the mold 1) = 200.00 (mm)

R₂ (radius of curvature on a convex surface side of the bench lens and the small lens) = 200.00

R₃ (radius of curvature on an eye-facing side of the small lens) which will be described below

R₄ (radius of curvature on a concave surface side

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of the bench lens) = 100.00

Surface refractive power D = $(N_d - 1) / R \times 1000$
(mm)

5 Thus, Table 1 shows a result obtained by calculating an additional power and the radius of curvature R_3 on the eye-facing side in the small lens.

[Table 1]

Additional power	1.00	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00
10 R_3	500.0	270.0	180.0	138.0	111.0	93.0	80.0	70.3	62.5

[Example 2]

Next, description will be given to another embodiment of the compound lens. Fig. 2(a) shows a mold 16 in which a small lens molding surface is formed on a concave surface side. The concave surface side for molding a bench lens is a spherical surface having a radius of curvature of R_5 and is provided with a concave portion 4a having a radius of curvature of R_7 , which molds a small lens. Fig. 2(b) shows a mold 17 forming a convex surface side of the bench lens, and the convex surface

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has a radius of curvature of R_6 . By using these molds, a peripheral edge portion is sealed with a tape 5 to create a shell 18, and the first monomer 8 is cast into a cavity portion 19 and is heated and polymerized and the 5 molds are then released as shown in Fig. 2(c) so that a preparatory lens member 20 including a small lens 20a shown in Fig. 2(d) is obtained. As shown in Fig. 2(e), then, the preparatory member 20 and a mold 21 having a curvature radius of on a concave surface side which is 10 equal to a radius of curvature on a convex surface side of the preparatory member are used and peripheral edge portions are sealed with the tape 5, thereby creating a shell 22, and the second monomer 12 is cast into a cavity portion 23 and is heated and polymerized, a cast molded 15 member 24 is polymerized and adhered and the mold 21 is released so that a compound lens 25 shown in Fig. 2(f) is obtained. Also in this case, a small lens is set in the second monomer having a low refractive index. The concave surface side is ground and polished as shown in 20 a one-dotted chain line and a refractive power, a power to correct astigmatism and an astigmatism axis are regulated to obtain a bifocal lens.

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An additional power and a radius of curvature of a small lens according to the example 2 are as follows.

First monomer : MR174 manufactured by MITSUI CHEMICALS, INC., Nd = 1.737

5 Second monomer : MR6 manufactured by MITSUI CHEMICALS, INC., Nd = 1.594

R_5 (radius of curvature on a concave surface side of the mold 16) = 368.5 (mm)

10 R_6 (radius of curvature on a convex surface side of the bench lens) = 150.00

R_7 = radius of curvature on an objective side of the small lens

Surface refractive power D = $(Nd - 1) / R \times 1000$ (mm)

15 Table 2 shows a result obtained by calculating the additional power and the radius of curvature R_7 on the eye-facing side of the small lens in accordance with the equation.

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[Table 2]

Additional power	1.00	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00
R ₇	100.0	87.50	75.00	67.00	60.00	54.50	49.50	45.50	42.20

5 [Example 3]

While the monomer having a high refractive index of 1.737 has been used in the example 1, description will be given to an example in which the same object can be achieved even if the refractive index is varied.

10 First monomer : MR-7 manufactured by MITSUI CHEMICALS, INC., Nd = 1.660

Second monomer : CR-39 manufactured by PPG, Nd = 1.498

15 In order to adhere these monomers, it is necessary to first polymerize and cure the second monomer and to then cast the first monomer. For the mold, a mold shown in Fig. 5 is used.

R₅ (radius of curvature on a concave surface side of a mold 30) = 332.5 (mm)

20 Radius of curvature on a concave surface side of a mold 33) = 332.5 (mm)

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R_7 = radius of curvature on an eye-facing side of a small lens

Table 3 shows a result obtained by calculating an additional power and the radius of curvature R_7 on an eye-facing side of a small lens in the same manner as in the example 1. In comparison for an additional power of 3.00, R_7 is 66.86. As compared with the example 1, a monomer having a lower refractive index is used and the radius of curvature has an almost equal value.

10 [Table 3]

Additional power	1.00	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.25	2.50
R_7	332.5	223.34	167.39	133.84	111.50	95.55	83.59
Additional power	2.75	3.00					
R_7	74.30	66.86					

[Example 4]

The bifocal lens according to the invention has a feature that a boundary line between a small lens and a bench lens is difficult to see, and Fig. 3 shows an enlarged part of the mold 16 illustrated in Fig. 2(a).

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Over a boundary surface formed by the concave portion 4a having the radius of curvature R, which molds the small lens 20a and the bench lens molding surface (a portion surrounded in a broken line), a thickness of a protrusion 5 of the small lens (a height) is zero and the lens is seen to be a line from a front. The reason is that a discontinuous surface for a refractive power is generated. Accordingly, the boundary surface is chamfered with a radius of curvature of r in order to see 10 the boundary line with more difficulty. In this case, it is preferable that a radius having the radius of curvature of r should range from 0.1 mm to 1 mm, and a range of a leap in a refractive power is set to be as small as possible.

15 The small lens in each of the examples 1 and 2 simply indicates a procedure for an arrangement of the small lens in the preparatory lens member, and the small lens is drawn in a small diameter and a field of near-sight view is small. When the diameter of the small lens 20 is increased in order to widen a field of view, an upper part of the small lens enters a far-sight section so that the field of the far-sight view is reduced. In order to

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eliminate the drawback, it is preferable to provide a step 26, thereby deleting the upper part of the small lens to widen the field of far-sight view as shown in Fig. 4(e). Although the step 26 is seen to be a surface having a great width from the front of the lens, it is an interface of resins having different refractive indices in the bifocal lens according to the invention and a transmitted ray is reflected.

In order to cause this surface to be difficult to see, a portion having a width P is connected in a smaller radius of curvature R_0 than a radius of curvature R_7 , and a thickness of a protruded small lens is set to be equal to that of a bench lens as shown in Fig. 4(a). It is preferable that the width P portion should range from 1 mm to 2 mm because a leap in a refractive power is generated. As shown in (b) and (c), moreover, it is possible to make the boundary surface difficult to see by forming curved surfaces 26a or 26b with one or two radius of curvatures. The lens is seen from the front as shown in Fig. (d). Although the boundary line of the upper edge portion of the small lens is eliminated, an image is distorted in the portion corresponding to the width P.

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A line showing the upper edge portion of a small lens 20b is not restricted to a straight line but can also be a curve.

While the step 26 constitutes a surface and the step
5 can be seen clearly by the reflection of a transmitted
light over the transfer surface of the preparatory lens
member which is molded as described above, it is also
possible to prevent the step from being conspicuous by
lessening a quantity of the reflected light. More
10 specifically, it is preferable to absorb or irregularly
reflect the reflected light. In order to carry out the
irregular reflection, a surface of the step 26 of the
mold is processed like a mat with abrasive grains and the
mat surface is transferred onto the preparatory lens
15 member in molding, for example. Moreover, the protruded
step 26 surface may be colored in a stage in which the
preparatory lens member is molded. This method is
particularly effective for the case in which the lens is
colored for use, and the surface of the step is rarely
20 conspicuous if it is colored in the same color tone. It
is possible to use a dye or a paint for a coloring agent.
When a solution in which SiO_2 having a particle diameter

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of 20 to 200 nm is dispersed in a silicone type coupling agent is applied onto the surface of the step and is heated and cured, moreover, the particulates are fixed densely to the surface of the step and a heterogeneous film of SiO_2 is formed so that a ray can be prevented from being reflected.

[Example 5]

Fig. 5(a) is a sectional view showing a mold 30 in which a small lens molding surface is provided like a convex on a concave surface side. Although such a mold has been hard to polish, the polishing can be carried out by the progress of a polishing technique. A polyamide resin or a polycarbonate resin is used as a thermoplastic resin to mold a preparatory lens member 31 shown in Fig. 5(b) by an injection molding method or a pressure molding method so that a concave portion 32 of the small lens molding surface is formed. A mold 33 having an equal radius of curvature to the radius of curvature of an objective surface of the preparatory lens member at a concave surface side and the preparatory lens member 31 are sealed at a peripheral edge portion with a tape 5, thereby creating a shell 34. The first monomer 8 (a

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refractive index of 1.737) is cast into a cavity portion
35 and is heated, polymerized and cured to obtain a
compound lens 37 in which a small lens molding member 36
and the preparatory lens member 31 are adhered to each
5 other as shown in Fig. 5(d). The compound lens may be
formed into a finished lens by polishing a concave
surface side to regulate a refractive power, and the
small lens molding member 36 may be ground and polished
to leave only the small lens 38 as shown in Fig. 5(e) in
10 order to obtain a bifocal lens 39 in which the
preparatory molded product 31 formed of a thermoplastic
resin having a low refractive index and the small lens
formed of a resin having a high refractive index are
formed integrally. The bifocal lens takes the same shape
15 as the shape of the lens described in the example 1.

In some cases in which an urethane type or
episulfide type resin monomer is to be cast into a
preparatory lens member using a thermoplastic resin, an
interface of these resins becomes cloudy. In such cases,
20 it is possible to form a protective film on the
preparatory lens member by using a silane coupling agent.
In order to form a film, it is possible to use a dipping

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method, and there is properly used a solution prepared by suitably mixing γ -aminopropyl triethoxy silane, γ -mercaptopropyl trimethoxy silane, γ -methacryloxypropyl trimethoxy silane, methyltrimethoxysilane, γ -aminopropyl triethoxy silane and so on. This is pulled up at a speed of 150 to 200 mm every minute and is heated and cured at 130°C for 10 to 20 minutes to form a protective film so that the cloud can be eliminated and the adhesion of two types of resins can also be enhanced.

Fig. 6(a) shows a mold 40 in which a small lens molding surface is provided like a convex on a convex surface side. Consequently, a preparatory lens member 41 formed of a polycarbonate resin provided with a small lens molding surface 42 is molded as shown in Fig. 6(b). A mold 43 having, on the convex surface side, an equal radius of curvature to the radius of curvature of the concave surface side of the preparatory lens member is used to create a shell 44 and the first monomer 8 is cast into a cavity portion 45, and is heated and polymerized and the mold 43 is then released. Consequently, there is obtained a compound lens 47 in which a small lens molding

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member 46 and the preparatory lens member 41 are formed integrally as shown in Fig. 6(e). When a concave surface side of the compound lens is ground and polished, a bifocal lens having a small lens 48 formed on the concave 5 surface side can be obtained.

While the resin having a high refractive index is used on the side where the small lens is to be molded and the resin having a lower refractive index is used on the bench lens side in each of the examples 1, 2 and 5, it is 10 possible to form an inexpensive bench lens by injection molding or pressure molding by using a thermoplastic resin having a low refractive index when forming the small lens molding surface like a concave on the bench lens side as in the example 5. In the case in which a 15 resin having a high refractive index is to be cast into the small lens molding surface, it is also possible to cast the resin monomer into only the small lens molding portion and to carry out heating and polymerization, and furthermore, to separately mold a small lens and to bond 20 the small lens with an optical adhesive or a monomer.

Although the bench lens is varied depending on a type to be produced, a radius of curvature on an

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objective side is properly determined in a design. In the invention, an equal radius of curvature is used on an objective side and an adhered surface of a compound lens to be finished. Accordingly, a preparatory lens member 5 having the same radius of curvature is the bench lens. Since the lens molded earlier serves as a mold conceptually, however, it is represented as the bench lens.

The invention is not restricted to these examples 10 but a finished product having a radius of curvature on an objective side and that of an adhered surface which are different from each other can also be set to be a manufactured product. For this reason, the invention also includes such a lens.

15 INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

Since a small lens is not protruded but a boundary of the small lens can be prevented from being conspicuous in the bifocal plastic lens according to the invention, it is useful as a lens for a pair of bifocals having an 20 excellent handling property and appearance.